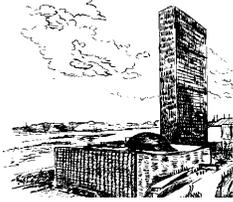


Part 1



Political and Security Affairs

Regional Issues

Middle East

Situation in the Middle East

Because of the collapse of the Middle East peace process and the outbreak of violence on the eve of the General Assembly, a positive resolution expressing support for the achievements of the peace process and calling for international support for the economic and social development of the Palestinian people was not introduced during the 55th General Assembly.

The United States continued to oppose a number of perennial resolutions on the Middle East (Syrian Golan, Question of Palestine, Israeli Settlements, Palestinian Right to Self-Determination, Israeli Practices). The United States opposes these resolutions because they address permanent status issues that are the subject of negotiations between the parties; they advocate activities or language incompatible with basic principles of the Middle East peace process; and/or they expend resources that could be used in more productive ways to improve the lives of the Palestinian people.

UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

UNIFIL was established by UN Security Council Resolution 425 (1978) in response to an Israeli operation in southern Lebanon which, in turn, had followed a Palestinian Liberation Organization attack inside Israel. UNIFIL's mandate includes confirming the withdrawal of the Israeli Army from southern Lebanon, restoring peace and security in the area, and assisting the Lebanese Government in restoring its authority in southern Lebanon. UNIFIL provides significant medical and other humanitarian assistance to the civilian population in its area of operation, cooperating closely with the Lebanese authorities, UN agencies, the International Red Cross, and other organizations operating in Lebanon.

On April 17, 2000, the Government of Israel sent formal notification to Secretary General Annan that it would withdraw its forces from Lebanon by July 2000, "in full accordance with Security Council Resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978)."

Israeli forces began to vacate positions on May 16, 2000. On May 25, the Government of Israel notified the Secretary General that Israel had redeployed in compliance with Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426. From May 24 to June 7, the UN cartographer and his team, assisted by UN Truce Supervision Organization observers working under the operational control of UNIFIL, worked to identify a line to be adopted for the practical purposes of confirming the Israeli withdrawal. The line was established on June 7. Notwithstanding their reservations about the line, the Governments of Israel and Lebanon confirmed that identifying this line was the sole responsibility of the United Nations and that they would respect the line as identified.

On June 16, the Secretary General reported to the Security Council that Israel had withdrawn its forces from Lebanon in accordance with Resolution 425 and on June 18, the Security Council endorsed this determination. In order to patrol an increased area of responsibility and conduct operational demining, the United Nations increased UNIFIL's size from approximately 4,500 troops to 5,800. UNIFIL monitored the line of withdrawal on a daily basis, by means of ground and air patrols. UNIFIL command immediately brought to the attention of the side responsible any violations of the withdrawal line.

From the end of July until early October, the situation in the UNIFIL area of operations was generally calm, except for numerous minor violations of the line of withdrawal, the so-called Blue Line.

On August 9, the Government of Lebanon deployed a Joint Security Force of 1,000 troops and internal security forces. The Force established its headquarters in Marjayoun and Bin Jubayl and began limited patrolling and establishing occasional roadblocks. However, near the Blue Line, Lebanese authorities had left control to Hizbollah (a Lebanese terrorist/liberation group). The Government of Lebanon took the position that, so long as there was no comprehensive peace with Israel, the army would not act as a border guard for Israel and would not be deployed to the border.

A serious incident occurred on October 7. In the context of the tension in the Occupied Territories and Israel, about 500 Palestinians and supporters approached the line south of Marwahin, Lebanon to demonstrate against Israel. As the crowd attempted to cross the Israeli border fence, Israeli troops opened fire, killing three people and injuring approximately 20 more. Later the same day, in a serious breach of the cessation of hostilities agreement, Hizbollah launched an attack across the Blue Line about three kilometers south of Shab'a Farms and took three Israeli soldiers prisoner. On October 20, three Palestinians crossed the Blue Line east of Kafr Shub'a and tried to break through the Israeli technical fence, which runs some distance behind the line. The Israeli forces responded with heavy fire. One of the three was killed; the others managed to get away.

During a Security Council meeting on November 14, the Council called for an end to the "dangerous violations that have continued" along the Blue Line. It agreed with the conclusions of the Secretary General that

although there had been “tangible progress” in implementing Resolution 425, “it was required that the Government of Lebanon take effective control of the whole area vacated by Israel last spring and assume its full international responsibilities.” At the end of the year, Lebanon had neither established its effective authority and presence in the south, nor increased the rate of the deployment of its armed forces.

As of December 31, UNIFIL had 5,802 troops from 10 nations. Contributing countries included Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, India, Ireland, Italy, Nepal, Poland, and Ukraine. The United States provided no troops to UNIFIL.

UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)

Security Council Resolution 50 established UNTSO, the first peacekeeping mission assigned by the United Nations, in 1948 to supervise the truce between Arabs and Jews called for by the Council at the end of the British mandate in Palestine. Since then, the Council had entrusted UNTSO with a variety of tasks, including the supervision of the implementation and observance of the general agreements between Israel and its four Arab neighbors—Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.

Following the 1967 Middle East War, UNTSO took on cease-fire monitoring responsibilities in the Israel–Syria sector and the Suez Canal Zone. In 1972, the United Nations established a similar operation in southern Lebanon. The United Nations subsequently directed unarmed UNTSO military observers to assist UN peacekeeping forces deployed in the Sinai (1973), on the Golan Heights (1974), and in southern Lebanon (1978).

In 2000, UNTSO continued to help coordinate and maintain regional stability and, in doing so, supported the Middle East peace negotiations. UNTSO military observers continued to assist the UN Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). At Egypt’s request, the mission also provided a small monitoring team to patrol the Sinai.

During and after the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, UNTSO military observers, working under the operational control of UNIFIL, continued to patrol their area of responsibility. UNTSO’s Observer Group Lebanon military observers served as principal guides for the UN cartographers during their survey of the Israeli technical line of withdrawal. This technical line was subsequently nicknamed the “Blue Line.”

On the Golan Heights, UNTSO’s Observer Group Golan assisted UNDOF by monitoring the area that separates Israeli and Syrian armed forces. On the Golan, no significant incidents were reported during the year.

As of December 31, UNTSO had approximately 150 military observers from 22 nations. Contributing countries included Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Russian

Federation, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, and the United States. The United States provided two military observers.

UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

The United Nations established UNDOF to supervise the disengagement of Israeli and Syrian forces on the Golan Heights in accordance with the U.S. negotiated agreement of 1974 after the 1973 Arab–Israeli war. UNDOF plays a positive role in the Middle East peace negotiations, serving U.S. national security interests by maintaining confidence levels and preventing the escalation of tensions between Israel and Syria.

The Security Council extends UNDOF’s mandate at six–month intervals. The current mandate expires May 31, 2001, in accordance with Security Council Resolution 1328 (November 27, 2000). In his recommendation to extend the mandate, Secretary General Annan observed, as on previous occasions, that, despite the present quiet in the Israeli–Syrian sector, the situation in the Middle East continued to be potentially dangerous until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem was reached. In the prevailing circumstances, he considered the continued presence of UNDOF in the area essential.

On the Golan Heights, UN Truce Supervision Organization’s Observer Group Golan assisted UNDOF by monitoring the area that separates Israeli and Syrian armed forces. No significant incidents were noted between the parties during the year 2000.

As of December 31, UNDOF had 1,034 troops from six nations. Contributing countries included Austria, Canada, Japan, Poland, Slovak Republic, and Sweden. The United States provides no troops to UNDOF.

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

The U.S. Government contributed \$101 million to UNRWA in fiscal year 2000. The State Department contributed \$89 million, of which \$86.6 million went to the organization’s General Fund to provide relief and social services, health care, and education to Palestinian refugees in the Middle East. In addition, U.S. contributions to UNRWA special projects in 2000 made possible the training of UNRWA health care staff in epidemiology, reproductive health counseling, and management techniques through a program operated in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control. The State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration also funded shelter rehabilitation for UNRWA’s “Special Hardship Cases” for those families who have no adult male medically fit to sustain his family financially; the continuation of UNRWA’s Computer Information Technology Initiative; and the development of an UNRWA Department of Education Management Information System to improve the quality and effectiveness of the Education Department’s planning and decision–making. USAID gave \$12 million for food assistance to UNRWA in the same period.

The General Assembly focused its attention on UNRWA by adopting a group of seven resolutions on it. Voting on the resolutions was as follows: Resolution 55/123, "Assistance to Palestinian refugees," was adopted by a vote of 156 to 1, with 3 (U.S.) abstentions; Resolution 55/124, "Working Group on the Financing of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East," was adopted by consensus; Resolution 55/125, "Persons Displaced as a Result of the June 1967 and Subsequent Hostilities," was adopted by a vote of 156 to 2 (U.S.), with 2 abstentions; Resolution 55/126, "Offers by Member States of Grants and Scholarships for Higher Education, Including Vocational Training, for Palestine Refugees," was adopted by a vote of 160 (U.S.) to 0, with 1 abstention; Resolution 55/127, "Operations of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East," was adopted by a vote of 157 to 2 (U.S.), with 2 abstentions; Resolution 55/128, "Palestine Refugees' Properties and Their Revenues," was adopted by a vote of 156 to 2 (U.S.), with 2 abstentions; and Resolution 55/129, "University of Jerusalem 'Al-Quds' for Palestine Refugees," was adopted by a vote of 156 to 2 (U.S.), with 2 abstentions.

In its explanation of vote on the complete set of resolutions, the U.S. delegation underscored its longstanding commitment to the work of UNRWA, noting that the United States remained the largest contributor to UNRWA and would continue to support UNRWA's important educational, health, social, and humanitarian relief programs. The U.S. delegation criticized the inclusion of politicized language in several of the resolutions, and urged that narrow political agendas be set aside so that UNRWA could receive the wholehearted support it deserves.

Iraq

Iraq continued its failure to comply with Security Council resolutions in 2000. Throughout the year, the Iraqi Government barred the return of UN-mandated weapons inspectors and failed to meet its obligation, under Resolution 687 (1991) and subsequent resolutions, to disclose and relinquish all capabilities and programs pertaining to weapons of mass destruction and long-range ballistic missiles. Consequently, UN sanctions on Iraq (in accordance with Resolutions 661, 670, and others) remained in effect in 2000.

Iraq also repeatedly rejected Resolution 1284 (1999). That resolution would allow for suspension of the sanctions under certain conditions, including Iraqi cooperation with the UN Monitoring, Verification, and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), which the Government of Iraq refused to admit into the country. Iraq made no attempt to meet with UNMOVIC Executive Chairman Hans Blix. Iraq also refused to admit the International Atomic Energy Agency for monitoring and inspecting purposes.

Security Council Resolution 1284 also created a College of Commissioners to review the implementation of resolutions and provide professional advice and guidance to the UNMOVIC Executive Chairman. The

Commissioners met in May, August, and November and reviewed UNMOVIC's implementation of its mandate. At year's end, UNMOVIC had 44 employees in New York and about 120 inspectors in reserve.

The Executive Director of the Iraq Program noted in his September and December reports that the Iraqi Government continued to impede operation of the Oil-for-Food program through delays in contracting for humanitarian goods and failing to seek commercial protection clauses to deter suppliers from providing unacceptable goods.

The Special Rapporteur on Human Rights again reported the most severe problems in Iraq, including systematic extra-judicial killings and torture. The Iraqi Government refused to meet with or admit the Special Rapporteur. On December 4, the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 55/115, which strongly condemned the widespread and extremely grave human rights violations occurring in Iraq. The resolution denounced Iraq's continuing noncooperation with the UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights and cited numerous abuses, including summary and arbitrary execution, systematic torture and mutilation, and suppression of freedoms.

The Iraqi Government also refused to admit other UN experts and special representatives. These officials included the High Level Coordinator on the repatriation of Kuwaiti and other nationals and the return of stolen property, and experts on the humanitarian situation and implementation of a program that would allow for Oil-for-Food purchases inside Iraq for cash. As a result of Iraq's refusals, there was no progress in these areas.

The United States continued its strong support for the UN's Oil-for-Food program, under which Iraqi oil export revenues are used to provide humanitarian assistance to Iraq's civilian population. The Security Council adopted Resolutions 1302 (June 8) and 1330 (December 5) to extend the program.

UN Iraq/Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM)

Security Council Resolution 689 (1991) established UNIKOM following the forced withdrawal of Iraqi forces from the territory of Kuwait. The United Nations demanded that Iraq not utilize its military or any other forces in a hostile or provocative manner to threaten its neighbors or UN operations in Iraq.

UNIKOM contributed to the maintenance of stability in the demilitarized zone between the two countries. The situation along the border was generally quiet in 2000. There were a few demonstrations but no significant action was reported.

The Khawar'Abd Allah Waterway Monitoring project commenced operation on February 15. This new maritime operation is directly under the command of the Force Commander of UNIKOM. Its area of responsibility covers the waterways and the land area patrolled by UNIKOM from patrol and observation bases on the Al Faw peninsula.

UNIKOM continued to maintain a close and regular liaison with the authorities of both Iraq and Kuwait at various levels, including visits by the Force Commander to the two capitals and through the UNIKOM liaison offices in Baghdad and Kuwait City.

As of December 31, UNIKOM had 1,096 troops and observers from 33 nations. Contributing countries included Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, China, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia (Burma), Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The United States provided 11 military observers to UNIKOM.

Africa

Working Group on Reduction of Conflict

In 1998, the Secretary General produced a report on “The Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa” (A/52/871—S/1998/318). The Security Council then established a Working Group of all members of the Council to review recommendations in the report related to the maintenance of international peace and security. That process resulted in the Council adopting four Resolutions (1196, 1197, 1208, and 1209) and two Presidential Statements (1998/28 and 1998/35) before the Working Group concluded its work in late 1998. In 1999, the General Assembly, in Resolution 54/234, established its own Open-Ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa, to monitor implementation of the Secretary General’s 1998 report.

The influence of the Secretary General’s report on Africa continued to be felt in 2000, notably in the Secretary General’s report for the Millennium Assembly, “We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the Twenty-first Century” (A/54/2000), and the Resolution “UN Millennium Declaration” (55/2), which set goals of democracy consolidation, conflict prevention, and poverty eradication for meeting the special needs of Africa.

The United States had “reservations about certain aspects” of the Millennium Declaration, including its reference to debt cancellation. Regarding Africa,

The United States believes that it would have been more accurate and useful to refer to the need—which the United States recognizes and supports—for member states and international financial institutions to work with the governments of African countries to develop programs of debt relief, including debt forgiveness, taking into account demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction.

In one of the main Millennium Summit events, on September 7, the Security Council met at the level of heads of states and governments and

adopted Resolution 1318 on ensuring an effective role for the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, particularly in Africa. The heads of states and governments resolved to strengthen the central role of the United Nations in peacekeeping; enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations in addressing conflict at all stages from prevention to settlement to post-conflict peace-building; and reaffirmed the Council's determination, in view of the particular needs of Africa, to give special attention to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

The General Assembly, in Resolution 55/217 of December 21, decided to extend until the 56th General Assembly (2001) the mandate of the Open-Ended Ad Hoc Working Group so that it could continue to monitor implementation of the recommendations in the Secretary General's original report.

Angola

The United Nations has been involved in Angola since 1988, when it established the UN Angola Verification Mission I (UNAVEM I) to monitor Cuban troop withdrawal. In May 1991, the United Nations created UNAVEM II to help monitor compliance with the Bicesse peace accords, and prepare for elections the following year. In early 1995, following two years of brutal conflict and the subsequent negotiation and signing of the Lusaka Protocol, the UN Security Council established UNAVEM III, which, by 1996, had about 7,300 members. UNAVEM III and the follow-up UN Observer Mission in Angola (MONUA) were composed of military observers, political officers, civilian police, and human rights monitors. After its 1997 creation, the Security Council extended MONUA's mandate in 1997 and 1998. The Government of Angola and the National Union for Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) began full-scale fighting in late 1998, and in January 1999, the Angolan Government informed the United Nations it would not support extension of MONUA's mandate. Security Council Resolution 1229 (1999) did not renew MONUA but did authorize human rights activities to continue during the termination process.

The UN's current mandate in Angola dates from Security Council Resolution 1268 (October 15, 1999), which established the UN Office in Angola (UNOA). The purpose of UNOA is to maintain an international presence in Angola to help explore possible openings for a peaceful end to the continuing civil conflict. The Office only became operational in early 2000 after negotiations between the Government of Angola and UN Under Secretary General and Adviser for Special Assignments in Africa, Ibrahim Gambari, opened the way to the assignment of an office director and a 30-person staff to Luanda. Within the UN Secretariat, lead responsibility for UNOA was transferred from the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to the Department of Political Affairs as of January 2000. On February 3, the Government of Angola formally approved the establishment of the UNOA office in Luanda. Working through its Human Rights Division,

UNOA sought to improve the human rights situation in Angola by providing training and consultation services to law enforcement and justice officials. The Security Council renewed UNOA's mandate twice and it currently runs until the end of 2001.

The Security Council identified UNITA as responsible for the continuing civil war in Angola due to its refusal to comply with the terms of the Lusaka Protocol of 1994. Starting in 1993, the Council imposed three sets of sanctions on UNITA to remove its war making capability. These sanctions were targeted to prevent the sale of arms, petroleum products, and mining and transportation equipment to UNITA; to prohibit the import by other states of diamonds mined by UNITA; and to block UNITA's access to overseas offices, travel, and financial assets. In May 1999, the Security Council created a Panel of Experts to investigate violations of the sanctions. In Resolution 1295 (July 19, 2000), the Council created a Monitoring Mechanism composed of up to five experts to report to the Council on the implementation of the sanctions regime against UNITA. The Monitoring Mechanism prepared a report on the observance of the sanctions by UN member states that recommended ways to make them more effective.

Burundi

Since 1993, when President Melchior Ndadaye was assassinated, over 200,000 Burundians have died in conflicts between Hutu and Tutsi factions; an additional 380,000 became refugees, most in Tanzania. In December 2000, there were about 500,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs). President Pierre Buyoya, who was returned to power in 1996 following a military coup, has pursued three peace strategies: an external peace process in Arusha, Tanzania; an internal peace process with the unarmed Burundian opposition in the National Assembly; and counterinsurgency operations against Hutu rebels, including "regroupment" of rural civilians into camps. The United Nations has not had peacekeepers in Burundi.

In December 1999, regional leaders selected former President Nelson Mandela of South Africa as the new facilitator of the peace process, replacing former President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, who had died in October. On January 19, 2000, President Mandela addressed the Security Council in an open briefing on the situation in Burundi. The Council then adopted Resolution 1286, which expressed deep concern at the ongoing violence and insecurity in Burundi, reaffirmed that the renewed Arusha peace process represented the most viable basis for a resolution of the conflict, and warmly endorsed the designation of Mandela as the new Facilitator of the process. It called on all parties that remained outside the Arusha process to cease hostilities and to participate fully in the process. The Council also called for immediate and unhindered access of humanitarian workers and human rights observers to all regroupment camps, and for security guarantees for UN humanitarian agencies to resume field operations.

Refugee flows into Tanzania spiked in December 1999 and January 2000, and then declined sharply, possibly because Mandela's role as facilitator had a positive psychological impact. On February 4, the Government of Burundi announced it would begin the gradual return home of regroupment camp internees. In November, the United Nations confirmed that all 54 of the camps had been dismantled, although some people remained in the area around the former camps either because conditions were too insecure in their home communities or their homes had been destroyed.

Despite President Mandela's leadership, the Arusha process made uneven progress. In August, to force the pace, Mandela convened a summit in Arusha and prevailed upon most of the Burundian factional leaders to sign an Arusha Peace Accord. Additional parties signed in September, until all 19 Burundian political parties had signed. President Clinton, in Arusha to support Mandela, pledged that the United States would "strongly support a role for the United Nations in helping to implement [peace]." The United States also contributed an additional \$500,000 to the Arusha process. The Arusha Accord, however, did not include a cessation of hostilities agreement, and the two primary Hutu rebel groups did not participate in the talks.

President Mandela returned to New York and, on September 29, briefed the Security Council which then issued a Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2000/29) praising his efforts. The Council stressed that the key to a lasting peace lay with the Burundian parties, including the Government of Burundi. It reiterated its call on all parties that remained outside the peace process to cease hostilities and participate fully. The Council stood ready to consider practical ways in which it could best support the peace process.

Increased rebel attacks, however, threatened to undermine the Arusha process and aggravate already alarming humanitarian conditions. Tensions between Burundi and Tanzania increased as cross-border incursions by Burundian rebels became more numerous. Rebels also entered Burundi from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, increasing insecurity in the country. On October 25, the Secretary General briefed the Council on the situation and the Council President made a press statement condemning the recent violence, calling on all parties to participate in the Arusha peace process. Another Secretariat briefing to the Council on November 21 was equally somber.

In December, UN Special Coordinator for internally displaced persons, Dennis McNamara, led an inter-agency UN mission to Burundi to assess the needs of the IDP population, as a case study in a UN review of the international response to IDPs. The mission noted serious gaps in security for IDPs, differences in response to various categories of IDPs, and the continued lack of humanitarian access.

As the year ended, the situation threatened to become increasingly unstable. Hutu rebels occupied ground within 15 kilometers of Bujumbura, the capital, and attacks in other parts of the country escalated.

Central African Republic

The Security Council established the UN Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA) in March 1998, with a mandate to maintain security in the capital city, Bangui. The Mission's goal was to enable the Government of the Central African Republic to implement reforms that could improve internal stability and prevent a return to the conditions that provoked the armed forces mutinies of 1996. MINURCA succeeded the Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Accords (MISAB), a French-led and financed African multinational force. Many of the original troop contingents in MINURCA had previously participated in MISAB. In voting to establish MINURCA, the United States sought to provide the Central African Government a temporary window of opportunity to implement stabilizing reforms. As a result of the Government's failure to implement many of those reforms since 1998, the United States favored terminating MINURCA and concentrating efforts and resources on a smooth transition from peacekeeping to post-conflict peace-building.

On October 22, 1999, the Council approved Resolution 1271, which extended MINURCA through February 15, 2000, to permit more time to plan a follow-up peace-building office. In early 2000, the United Nations sent a team to Bangui to map out plans for the UN Peace-Building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA). On February 15, MINURCA's mandate expired and the Security Council established BONUCA. The primary mission of BONUCA is to support the Government's efforts to consolidate peace and reconciliation, strengthen democratic institutions, and facilitate the mobilization of international political support and resources for national reconstruction and economic recovery.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire)

Throughout 2000, the United States and the United Nations supported regional efforts to resolve the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which erupted in August 1998. This complex conflict pitted the DRC and its allies, Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, Chad (briefly), and Sudan, against rebels supported by Rwanda and Uganda (which briefly fought each other) and Burundi. Elements of the former Rwandan army and the Interahamwe militia, both linked to the 1994 Rwandan genocide, are fighting alongside DRC forces.

Regional leaders have continued to pursue efforts to end the conflict. There have been numerous meetings in 2000 under the auspices of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Governments of France, Libya, and Gabon. SADC has been the accepted umbrella for the peace talks, with Zambian President Frederick Chiluba assuming the leading role.

Presidents Laurent Kabila (DRC), Pasteur Bizimungu (Rwanda), Yoweri Museveni (Uganda), Robert Mugabe (Zimbabwe), Sam Nujoma (Namibia), and the Angolan defense minister signed a cessation of hostilities agreement in Lusaka in July 1999. The rebel groups, Congolese Rally for Democracy and Congolese Liberation Movement, signed in August. The signatories to the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement violated the accord on several occasions throughout 1999 and 2000.

On January 14, 2000, the UN Secretary General issued a report that recommended the further deployment of UN personnel to facilitate implementation of the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement. On January 26, after extensive consultations on the Congo, the UN Security Council issued a presidential statement reaffirming its determination to support implementation of the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement. The statement followed an open Security Council session on January 24 attended by the heads of state of Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, along with the Foreign Ministers of Namibia, South Africa, Canada, Belgium, the United States, the French Cooperation Minister, the Armed Forces Minister of Mali, and the OAU Secretary General Salim Salim. The UN Secretary General also attended. These developments occurred during the U.S. presidency of the Security Council in January when the United States led the Council in focusing on African issues, including sessions on HIV/AIDS, the problems of refugees and internally displaced persons, and ending regional conflicts.

Throughout 2000, the UN Security Council adopted several resolutions supporting the Lusaka Agreement and extended and expanded the mandate of the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), established in November 1999. On February 24, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1291, which extended the mandate to August 31 and authorized the expansion of MONUC to consist of up to 5,537 military personnel, including 500 observers. Phase II deployment of MONUC was to begin when key conditions were met. Further deployments did not occur in 2000, however, due to the failure of the parties to the conflict, especially the Congo, to provide adequate assurances of access and security for UN personnel on the ground. Progress was not made in initiating a national dialogue within the Congo despite the efforts of ex-Botswana President Sir Ketumile Masire as facilitator.

The Security Council extended MONUC's original six-month mandate twice, first for two months to mid-October, then to December 15. In his report to the Security Council on December 6 (S/2000/1156), the Secretary General said there had been some positive developments since his last report in September, and recommended a six-month extension of MONUC's mandate. On December 14, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1332, extending MONUC's mandate until June 15, 2001, and requested the Secretary General to provide it with an updated concept of operations for the mission. The Council also asked the Secretary General to organize a February 2001 meeting, consisting of the Council and the

signatories of the Lusaka Cease–Fire Agreement in order to review progress in the implementation of that agreement.

Defense ministers from the six states involved and rebel leaders met in Kampala, Uganda, on April 8 and agreed to a total cessation of hostilities as of April 14, and to withdraw 15 kilometers from the confrontation line, creating a 30–kilometer wide disengagement zone. This agreement was not implemented, however, due to renewed fighting.

Toward the end of 2000, diplomatic activity intensified. Summit meetings in Maputo, Mozambique, on October 16 and November 27 brought together the leaders and foreign ministers of most states involved in the conflict. The parties agreed to withdraw from their current front lines by 200 kilometers in the case of Rwanda, and 100 kilometers in the case of Uganda. Zimbabwe and Namibia agreed to withdraw 15 kilometers from the current disengagement line.

Following the two Maputo Summits, the defense ministers—meeting as the Joint Military Commission—met again and signed another agreement on December 6 in Harare, Zimbabwe, calling for a 15–kilometer pull-back from the disengagement line. This withdrawal was scheduled to start December 15, but no disengagement activity had occurred by the end of the year.

There were 183 military observers and 24 troops deployed in MONUC as of December 31.

Ethiopia/Eritrea

As 2000 began, the peace process was stalled. The United States continued to work closely with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea. OAU Special Envoy Ahmed Ouyahia (Algeria) and former U.S. National Security Advisor Anthony Lake visited Asmara and Addis Ababa in February and March. Algeria then brought the two parties together from April 29 to May 5 for proximity talks to settle the outstanding issues, but the talks broke down and both sides prepared for renewed fighting. Drought and incipient famine complicated the situation; the United States sent 773,652 metric tons of food assistance to alleviate conditions in Ethiopia and 111,826 metric tons of food assistance to Eritrea.

With conflict appearing imminent, the UN Security Council mission to the Congo, led by U.S. Permanent Representative Richard Holbrooke, extended its journey to include the Horn of Africa. From May 8 through 10, the Security Council mission shuttled between Asmara and Addis Ababa, and Holbrooke pressured the leaders of both countries not to restart the war. Nevertheless, the talks reached a dead end and the mission departed. On May 12, Ethiopian forces launched an offensive along the entire 620–mile front. The Security Council immediately adopted Resolution 1297 demanding that both parties immediately cease all military action, and resolving to meet again within 72 hours to take immediate steps in the event that hostilities continued. On May 13, Ethiopian forces

broke through the Eritrean lines. Within days, they reached to within 100 kilometers of Asmara. On May 31, the Ethiopian Government declared that, for it, the war was over and it would cease all offensive operations.

Tens of thousands of Eritrean civilians fled the Ethiopian advance. By the beginning of June, there were more than 1.1 million war-affected or displaced persons in Eritrea—almost one third of the population. An estimated 100,000 Eritreans entered Sudan and became refugees, joining 160,000 other Eritrean refugees in the Kassala area of Sudan. The United States supported the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in the care and protection of these refugees.

On May 17, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1298 which, as foreshadowed in Resolution 1297, decided that all states should prevent the sale or supply to Eritrea and Ethiopia of arms and related materials of all types. In a departure from previous Security Council practice, the Council set time limits on the arms embargo, deciding that the measures were established for 12 months and that, at the end of this period, the Council would decide whether the governments had complied with the demands of Resolution 1298 and whether to extend the measures. Regardless of the 12-month limit, the embargo could be lifted at any time if the Secretary General reported that “a peaceful definitive settlement of the conflict” had been concluded.

In response to de-escalation proposals from the OAU, Eritrea announced its intention to redeploy its troops to the positions it controlled prior to May 6, 1998 (the day Eritrea sent forces to occupy disputed border areas). Ethiopia similarly announced its willingness to withdraw from all territory taken after February 6, 1999 (the date Ethiopia’s 1999 offensive began) which were not under Ethiopian administration before May 6, 1998. Both sides agreed to resume proximity talks in Algiers. The talks lasted from May 30 until June 18, when the parties signed an Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities (S/2000/601) that called for establishment of a UN peacekeeping operation to monitor the cessation of hostilities and to remain operational until the delimitation and demarcation of the border was completed. Eritrean forces would redeploy and remain at a distance of 25 kilometers from the Ethiopian lines. This area of separation, entirely on Eritrean territory, would be known as the “Temporary Security Zone” (TSZ). The peacekeeping operation would conduct regular patrols throughout the TSZ. A Military Coordination Commission would be created to coordinate and resolve issues related to the peacekeeping mission. The Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities would be followed by further negotiations leading to a second agreement on the remaining outstanding issues.

Secretary General Annan dispatched a reconnaissance mission to the region July 4–18. After its return, the mission made recommendations concerning a concept of operations for a UN peacekeeping mission. The Secretary General then presented his proposals to the Security Council in late July. Efforts to reach agreement on the outstanding issues continued

in proximity talks held in Washington, D.C., on July 3, 5, and 6, in which delimitation and demarcation of the border and the issue of compensation were discussed.

On July 31, the Security Council, in Resolution 1312, authorized deployment of 100 UN military observers to Ethiopia and Eritrea to conduct liaison efforts with the parties and assist in the planning for the full-fledged peacekeeping operation. The Council designated the observer mission and its anticipated peacekeeping successor “UNMEE,” the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea. In Resolution 1312, the Council also stressed the importance of rapid delimitation and demarcation of the border, showing the concern of the Council that the peacekeeping operation not last indefinitely.

On August 9, the Secretary General proposed a mandate for the full peacekeeping operation. He anticipated that a combination of military observers and formed troops would be required. On September 15, Security Council Resolution 1320 authorized a total military strength for UNMEE of 4,200 personnel, including 220 military observers. Three engineer companies (585 troops) were tasked for mine clearance.

In August, the peace process threatened to stall because of human rights and humanitarian issues involving the treatment by the two governments of each other’s nationals. The United States sent a diplomatic mission to try to reduce tensions and persuade the parties to facilitate future repatriations with assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross. Resolution 1320 reaffirmed the need for both parties to fulfill all their obligations under international humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law.

On September 29, the Secretary General nominated Joseph Legwaila, Botswana’s permanent representative to the United Nations, as his special representative for Ethiopia and Eritrea. Then, on October 27, he nominated Major General Patrick C. Cammaert (Royal Netherlands Marines) as force commander of UNMEE. The United States decided to contribute six military observers and one staff officer to UNMEE, the only U.S. commitment of troops to a peacekeeping operation in sub-Saharan Africa.

In October and November, the OAU envoy and Mr. Lake continued their shuttle diplomacy, while Security Council members maintained pressure on the parties to finish the negotiation of outstanding issues. On November 17, the Council held an open briefing on the situation, and on November 21, the Council issued a Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2000/34) calling on the parties to conclude without delay a final and comprehensive peace settlement. The statement also encouraged the parties to agree on the immediate release and voluntary and orderly return of interned civilians, the prompt release of prisoners of war, and a moratorium on expulsions.

On December 12, in Algiers, with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Secretary General Kofi Annan present, Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi and Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki signed the final

and comprehensive peace accord (S/2000/1183). At the Military Coordination Commission meeting of December 28, however, Ethiopia threatened to delay withdrawal of its troops from the proposed TSZ “indefinitely” because Eritrea hesitated to honor its own redeployment commitments. As 2000 ended, delay and backtracking in implementation of the peace agreement appeared likely. Nevertheless, both sides seemed to have ruled out the option of resuming the war.

Guinea–Bissau

In 1999, the United Nations and the Economic Community of West African States helped end Guinea–Bissau’s year–long civil conflict. Despite fighting in January and a violent coup d’état in May, Guinea–Bissau held elections on November 28. Political and economic institutions remained fragile, however, and the stability of the civilian government depended on whether the military would stay out of politics. The competition between civilian and military rule culminated in another attempted coup in November 2000. The elected government prevailed, and the United Nations assisted Guinea–Bissau with plans for demobilization and reconstruction.

In consultation with members of the Security Council, the Secretary General requested that the mandate of the UN Peace–Building Support Office in Guinea–Bissau (UNOGBIS) be extended for three months, until March 31, 2000, in order to assist Guinea–Bissau in the fragile post–electoral period. In October 2000, the Security Council extended the mandate until the end of 2001 (S/2000/941).

Special Representative Samuel C. Nana–Sinkam cooperated with the transitional authorities to ensure that the November 1999 presidential election was held as scheduled and the UN Development Program provided technical assistance. Throughout the latter part of 1999, the situation remained fragile, however. Small arms circulated widely and banditry increased. There was no functioning police force; law and order tasks fell to the military, which remained an obtrusive presence in the provinces.

UNOGBIS coordinated international observation of the elections, with 88 observers drawn from 19 countries, including the United States. On November 28, over 80 percent of eligible voters participated in the elections, in a “climate of civility, serenity, transparency, and sincerity,” according to the international observers (S/1999/1276). In the presidential elections, Koumba Yala, the leader of the Party for Social Renewal, obtained almost 39 percent of the vote. Because none of the 12 candidates received the required majority, however, a second round of voting was scheduled for January 16, 2000. Koumba Yala was elected president in January with a 72 percent electoral majority. He included 16 former Junta members as Ministers in his cabinet, creating an uneasy power–sharing arrangement between the military and the civilian government.

In March 2000, at the behest of UNOGBIS, the Security Council called on all parties, particularly members of the military junta that had deposed President Bernardo Viera, to uphold the results of the election.

However, General Ansumane Mane, head of the military junta, did not fully accept the authority of the elected government: General Mane and the government were not able to resolve issues of control over the budget and the military. This uneasy coalition lasted for most of the year, while Mane placed increasing restrictions on the elected civilian government.

In November, President Yala nominated for promotion 30 members of the armed forces without consulting Mane. In response, Mane placed the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces under house arrest, declared himself Chief of Staff, and directed his soldiers to disarm the Presidential Guard. The Security Council issued a presidential statement on November 27 disapproving of Mane's actions and urging members of the former military junta to subordinate themselves to the civilian government. When the Presidential Guard and other elements of the armed forces refused to take part in the coup, General Mane and approximately 35 supporters fled the capital. On November 30, government forces surrounded Mane and his supporters, killing Mane in an exchange of gunfire.

Liberia

In 2000, the Security Council engaged Liberia and other West African states at the United Nations to support the efforts of the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) to promote peace and security in Sierra Leone and throughout the region (see Sierra Leone section). In May, the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebels attacked UN forces in Sierra Leone and took 500 UNAMSIL peacekeepers hostage. The Security Council and UN Secretary General urged Liberian President Charles Taylor to use his influence over the RUF to ensure the release of the UN hostages, and called on him to cease his support for the RUF. While some of the hostages may have been released at Taylor's urging, a large group was rescued by armed UNAMSIL intervention. The United States took the lead in the United Nations calling for Taylor to end his support for the RUF and proposing Security Council sanctions if Taylor failed to do so.

In September, the United States supported Secretary General Annan's request to extend the UN Peace-Building Office in Liberia (UNOL) until December 31, 2000. UNOL's mission is to help promote democracy, national reconciliation, and respect for human rights and the rule of law.

On October 14, the United States participated in a Security Council Mission to West Africa, which included a visit to Liberia. This visit was to gain a better understanding of Liberia's security concerns with a view to ending the fighting on Liberia's borders with Guinea and Sierra Leone. The mission also requested Liberia's cooperation in curbing the trafficking in diamonds and arms in the Mano River Union areas.

On December 14, the UN Experts Panel, established to monitor compliance with Security Council Resolution 1306 (2000) which prohibited the illegal trade in arms for Sierra Leone conflict diamonds, released its report. The report stated unequivocally that the Government of Liberia, and President Taylor in particular, were violating UN resolutions and supporting the RUF. Throughout late December, the United States consulted

with Security Council members on a draft resolution to impose an embargo on arms and diamonds and a ban on international travel against senior Liberian Government officials.

Libya

The trial of the two Libyans accused of bombing Pan Am 103 began on May 3 and continued throughout the year. Sanctions applied in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 748 (1992) and 883 (1993) continued to be suspended, but not lifted. Libya had handed over the two accused for trial before a Scottish court in the Netherlands, but had not complied with the requirements for lifting the sanctions. Those requirements are that Libya pay appropriate compensation, accept responsibility for the actions of its officials, renounce terrorism, and disclose all it knows of the bombing of Pan Am 103.

At the end of the year, it appeared that the trial would end in early 2001.

Rwanda

Throughout 2000, the United States and the United Nations supported regional efforts to resolve the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Specifically, the Security Council continued to call for the withdrawal of foreign forces, including Rwanda, from the Congo, and implementation of the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement (see section on Congo). Also, international efforts continued to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) (see section on War Crimes Tribunals). In March, the United States surrendered to the ICTR, at the request of its prosecutor, an indictee arrested in the United States. The United States also continued its substantial financial assistance to the ICTR.

Sierra Leone

On February 7, the Security Council expanded the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) to 11,000 troops, including the 260 military observers already deployed (Resolution 1289). As the security situation deteriorated, the Council approved on May 19 a further expansion to 13,000 (Resolution 1299).

In May, the rebel Revolutionary United Front (RUF) violated the 1999 Lome Peace Agreement, taking hostage approximately 500 UN peacekeepers; all were later released or rescued. On July 5, the Council took action to limit the illegal arms-for-diamonds trafficking that was funding RUF activities, and banned trade in uncertified Sierra Leonean diamonds (Resolution 1306). Seeking a forceful response to RUF aggression, the Council expressed its intention to authorize UNAMSIL to undertake more robust tasks when the mission was adequately equipped and staffed on August 4 (Resolution 1313).

To address the issue of war crimes, the Council on August 14 authorized the Secretary General to negotiate an agreement with the Govern-

ment of Sierra Leone to create an independent Special Court to try those most responsible for atrocities (Resolution 1315).

On September 5, the Council extended UNAMSIL's mandate for two weeks, to allow further discussion on what tasks the mission should undertake (Resolution 1317). The mandate was then rolled over again, to end October 31 (Resolution 1321). Finally, on December 22, the Council extended UNAMSIL's mandate until March 31, 2001, reaffirming its intention that UNAMSIL support the Government of Sierra Leone in restoring law and order and promoting a political process leading to peace (Resolution 1334).

All these resolutions were adopted by consensus. The United States actively promoted the diamonds ban and the creation of a Special Court, as well as mandating a more robust mission for UNAMSIL.

Sudan

Sudan featured prominently among U.S. concerns at the United Nations in 2000. The civil war, the human rights abuses committed by the Government of Sudan (and to a lesser extent by its armed opponents), the humanitarian crisis generated by the war, and Sudan's residual links with terrorist organizations were all troublesome issues. Because of these concerns, the United States opposed Sudan's candidacy for a seat on the Security Council. On October 10, when the General Assembly elected five new Council members to serve in 2001 and 2002, Mauritius achieved the necessary two-thirds majority in the fourth round, defeating Sudan 113 to 55.

In the Commission on Human Rights, the United States attempted to strengthen a European Union draft resolution on Sudan to be more forthright in addressing slavery, religious persecution, aerial bombardment of civilians, and humanitarian relief. Because the final draft remained flawed, on April 18 the United States called for a vote and abstained. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 28 to 0, with 24 (U.S.) abstentions. In the Third Committee of the General Assembly, the United States again attempted to strengthen a European Union draft resolution, but on November 10, when Sudan proposed unhelpful amendments, the U.S. delegation again called for a vote and abstained. On December 4, on the recommendation of the Third Committee, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 55/116 by a vote of 85 to 32, with 49 (U.S.) abstentions.

Security Council Resolutions 1044, 1054, and 1070, adopted in 1996, aimed at ending sanctuary in Sudan for terrorists, remained in effect. In a step toward resolving the terrorism issue, Sudan and the United States began consultations on counter-terrorism in 2000.

The Security Council dealt directly with Sudanese issues only once in 2000. In late July and early August, Sudanese Government airplanes repeatedly bombed UN and other humanitarian operations, including airstrips while UN relief planes were on the ground. On August 8, Secretary General Annan issued a statement of concern; on August 9, the U.S. Department of State issued a similar statement; and on August 11, the Secretary General briefed members of the Security Council after which the

President of the Council issued a statement to the press. The statement said in part:

Members of the Council urged the Sudanese Government and all others concerned to live up to their obligations to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian operations and to allow UN and nongovernmental organizations...full, safe, and unhindered access to vulnerable civilians in need of humanitarian assistance. Members recalled the obligation of all States to uphold the relevant principles contained in the convention on the safety of United Nations and associated personnel of 9 December 1994.

Western Sahara

The Security Council established the UN Mission for the Referendum in the Western Sahara (MINURSO) by Resolution 690 (1991) to help implement the Settlement Plan agreed to in 1988 by Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberacion de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro (Frente POLISARIO). The plan called for a cessation of hostilities agreement and the holding of a referendum to determine the future status of Western Sahara: either statehood or be integrated with Morocco. In essence, the plan required the identification of eligible voters, the return of refugees to the territory, and a vote on the future status of the territory under the auspices of the United Nations. In 2000, little progress was made toward resolving two key outstanding issues: the voter appeals process and refugee repatriation.

Since 1991, implementation of the Settlement Plan has been repeatedly stymied by disagreement over the disposition of the 65,000 members of the so-called "contested" tribal subfactions. The POLISARIO has claimed that the "contested" subfactions—long-term residents of Morocco who do not appear on the Spanish census of 1974—are ineligible to vote in the referendum, while Morocco has insisted that they should be included in the voter identification process.

MINURSO renewed voter identification in 1998, after the parties accepted a series of procedural protocols for managing voter identification and appeals. By the end of 2000, MINURSO had processed more than 200,000 prospective voters and found about 90,000 ineligible. Most of those found ineligible filed appeals, which now total over 130,000. The parties continued to disagree on the admissibility of the appeals. The Frente POLISARIO maintained that a large number of the appeals could be eliminated if MINURSO adhered strictly to agreed-upon procedures. Morocco argued that all applicants have the right to appeal and that the appeals fulfill the requirements of admissibility. Without the full commitment of the parties to resolve remaining differences in the appeals process, the referendum seemed unlikely in the near term and may be delayed indefinitely.

There was also scant progress on the issue of refugee repatriation. The parties did not agree to implement proposed cross-border confidence-building measures and did not reach agreement on the draft refugee repatriation protocol presented to them by the office of the UN High Commis-

sioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Without formal authorization from the Government of Morocco and cooperation from both the POLISARIO and Algeria (host country to the refugees), UNHCR could not proceed with refugee repatriation. By the end of 2000, UNHCR had registered some 120,000 refugees and their family members.

Throughout 2000, Personal Envoy of the Secretary General James A. Baker III continued to explore ways to achieve an early, peaceful, and durable settlement to the dispute. Mr. Baker visited Algeria, Morocco, and Western Sahara in early April to consult with the parties. In May, Secretary General Annan invited Morocco and the POLISARIO, as well as observers Algeria and Mauritania, to talks in London presided over by Baker. It was the parties' first direct exchange since 1997. The talks permitted a frank exchange of views but were inconclusive.

In mid-July, the two sides met in Geneva for a round of "technical talks" on the appeals process, the fate of Moroccan prisoners of war (POWs) held by the Frente POLISARIO, and the exchange of visits between relatives living on each side of the earthen berm separating Morocco and Western Sahara. The parties agreed in principle to proceed on a trial basis with an exchange of family visits, but this was delayed because of differences over language describing the program. Talks were also held in Berlin in September without results. While the POLISARIO released 201 POWs in mid-December, they still held 1,481 Moroccan POWs at year's end.

The Security Council voted to extend MINURSO's mandate in Resolutions 1292 (February 29), 1301 (May 31), 1309 (July 25), and 1324 (October 30).

Western Hemisphere

Cuba

On April 18, 2000, the UN Commission on Human Rights adopted the resolution cosponsored by Poland and the Czech Republic (Resolution 2000/25) on the human rights situation in Cuba by a vote of 21 (U.S.) to 18, with 14 abstentions. This represented the second consecutive year in which the Commission on Human Rights adopted a resolution on human rights in Cuba, after failing to do so in 1998 by a narrow margin.

On November 9, 2000, the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 55/20, by a vote of 167 to 3 (U.S.), with 4 abstentions. The Cuban-sponsored resolution called on states to refrain from promulgating and applying laws "such as...the 'Helms-Burton Act,'" the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other states, and urged states that have such laws to repeal them. A number of countries voted in favor of the resolution but expressed continuing concern over Cuba's poor human rights record in their explanations of vote.

Guatemala

The United States strongly supported efforts to assist the Guatemalan Government in implementing the peace accords signed on December 29, 1996, ending that country's 36-year internal struggle.

The UN Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) continued to verify compliance with the agreements signed between the Government of Guatemala and the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca. On December 19, 2000, the General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution to extend MINUGUA's mandate until December 31, 2001 (Resolution 55/177).

MINUGUA maintained eight regional offices and six subregional offices, providing it with a presence throughout the country. MINUGUA conducted prompt, thorough, and impartial investigations into alleged human rights abuses; worked to improve the administration of justice; and aided in opening access to the government for indigenous people. Human rights abuses in some categories have continued to decline, but attacks on human rights activists, journalists, labor leaders, judicial workers, and witnesses in human rights cases remained a serious concern. Common crime and violence also remained problems.

MINUGUA began to reduce the size of its operations in Guatemala. MINUGUA will gradually reduce the scope of its programs as indigenous institutions are developed and strengthened and become able to assume the responsibility for human rights monitoring and associated services. The United Nations expects MINUGUA to close by December 31, 2003.

Haiti

On November 23, 1999, the General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing the UN Support Mission in Haiti (MICAHA) as the follow-on UN presence to both the UN Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (MIPONUH) and the International Civilian Mission in Haiti (MICIVIH). In November 1999, the Security Council extended the mandate of MIPONUH until March 15, 2000, to ensure a smooth transition to MICAHA. The United States was a sponsor and supporter of this.

The General Assembly designed MICAHA to consolidate the gains achieved by MIPONUH and earlier UN peacekeeping missions, and by the human rights-oriented MICIVIH. MICAHA is a special political mission with substantial technical cooperation elements focusing on police training, administration of justice, and human rights. A Representative of the Secretary General with authority over all UN activities in Haiti heads MICAHA. It will be supported by the UN regular budget and through voluntary contributions from donor nations, including the United States and Canada. MICAHA's mandate expires February 1, 2001, and will not be renewed. The UN Development Program proposed an expanded program to try and build on some of MICAHA's activities. UNDP's expanded program will be dependent on voluntary donor contributions.

Other Areas

Afghanistan

In February 2000, the UN Secretary General appointed Special Envoy Francesc Vendrell (Spain) to head the UN Special Mission to Afghanistan (UNSMIA). UNSMIA remained the primary focus of international efforts to end the civil war in Afghanistan. Vendrell participated in talks between representatives of the Taliban and the National Islamic United Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan (United Front) held March and May in Jeddah under the auspices of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Fighting that broke out in July interrupted a prisoner exchange agreed to in the May talks.

Vendrell was actively engaged throughout the year with expatriate Afghans who were advocating that a *loya jirga*, a traditional grand assembly, should be convened inside Afghanistan to help resolve the conflict. In November, Vendrell obtained the agreement of both the Taliban and the United Front to enter into a process of dialogue, but by year's end, this process had not yet begun. The United Nations continued to expand UN staff in Afghanistan by opening civil affairs offices in Kabul, Kandahar, Herat, and Mazar-e Sharif, and also opened a liaison office in Tehran, Iran.

The Group of Six plus Two (Afghanistan's immediate neighbors plus the United States and Russia), organized by Special Envoy Lakhdar Brahimi in October 1997, continued its role as a major vehicle for international involvement in Afghanistan. In September, the Group met at the foreign minister level in New York on the margins of the UN Millennium Assembly to express grave concern at the continued fighting in Afghanistan and to call for a cessation of hostilities agreement. Earlier that month at the experts level, the Group adopted a regional counter-narcotics action plan.

The Security Council continued to be actively involved in Afghanistan in 2000. In February, Argentina took over the chair of the Sanctions Committee established to monitor implementation of Resolution 1267 (1999), which imposed an assets freeze and flight ban on the Taliban until they turn over international terrorist Usama bin Laden to authorities in a country where he would be brought to justice. At an April 7 open Security Council meeting, the United States and other delegations reiterated the Security Council's demand that the Taliban turn over Usama bin Laden. A Security Council Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2000/12), issued on April 7, condemned the Taliban for launching a new offensive in March, expressed alarm at the disturbing increase in the production and trafficking of drugs in Afghanistan, and called for international compliance with Resolution 1267.

On December 19, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1333 by a vote of 13 (U.S.) to 1, with 1 abstention which imposed further sanctions on the Taliban if they did not turn over bin Laden and close down terrorist training camps in Afghanistan. If the Taliban did not comply within thirty

days of adoption of the resolution, the resolution would impose an arms embargo against the Taliban; freeze the financial assets of bin Laden; order closure of Taliban offices overseas and urge UN members to reduce the staff at the limited number of Taliban missions abroad; advise member states to restrict travel of top Taliban officials except for specified humanitarian purposes; ban the export to Taliban-held territory of a precursor chemical used to manufacture heroin; and require closure of all Ariana Afghan Airlines offices and prohibit all non-humanitarian flights into/out of Afghanistan.

The United States drafted a resolution on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan, which was adopted without a vote during the February 28–March 2 session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The resolution focused on the denial of equal access to health care to women and girls, but also condemned Taliban restrictions on freedom of movement and access to education and employment.

On April 18, the UN Commission on Human Rights adopted without a vote a resolution strongly condemning mass killings and systematic human rights violations resulting from the ongoing armed conflict in Afghanistan (Resolution 2000/18). The severe situation of women and girls in Afghanistan, particularly in areas under Taliban control, was also deplored. The resolution cited the continuing pattern of human rights violations in the country and urged all Afghan parties to cease hostilities, protect civilians, fulfill their obligations to ensure the safety of diplomatic and other international personnel, refrain from arbitrary detention, and release any person so imprisoned.

On December 4, the UN General Assembly adopted without a vote a similar resolution (Resolution 55/119) on human rights in Afghanistan. Resolution 55/174 on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security, cosponsored by the United States, was also adopted without a vote by the General Assembly on December 19. The resolution urged the parties to find a political solution to the conflict and cease hostilities, expressed deep concern at the involvement of non-Afghan personnel in the fighting, chastised the Taliban for their treatment of minorities and women and lack of progress in investigating attacks on international personnel, and demanded that the Afghan factions refrain from providing sanctuary or training for international terrorists and halt all illegal drug activities. The resolution concluded with a call for better coordination of international humanitarian assistance for Afghanistan while condemning the restrictions imposed by the Taliban on UN relief operations.

The UN Credentials Committee again deferred consideration of the competing claims of the Taliban and the former Afghan Government to represent Afghanistan, leaving the former government in the UN seat as its last legitimate holder.

Bougainville

The United States continued to support UN efforts to peacefully resolve the Bougainville question in 2000. In a March 29 press statement, the President of the Security Council welcomed the signing of the Loloata Understanding by the Papua New Guinea Government and Bougainville leaders as an important step forward. The statement reaffirmed support for the Agreement on Peace, Security, and Development, signed in January 1998 (the Lincoln Agreement) and commended the helpful UN role in the peace talks emanating from that agreement. On June 9, 2000, the parties signed the Gateway Communique, which committed the parties to an accelerated timetable toward a final agreement—a development welcomed in a subsequent Council press statement.

The United Nations provided regular briefings to the Security Council during 2000 on the situation in Bougainville and the activities of the UN Political Office in Bougainville (UNPOB). Throughout the year, UNPOB Director Noel Sinclair remained an active participant in peace negotiations and played a leading role in keeping weapons surrender negotiations on track. In November, Secretary General Annan extended UNPOB's mandate for one year, citing the continued need for UNPOB to monitor implementation of the Lincoln and other peace agreements and its helpful role in promoting political dialogue among the parties. The United States and other Council members supported the extension and called upon the parties to redouble their negotiation efforts.

Burma

The United States worked actively in 2000 to promote international pressure on the Burmese regime (State Peace and Development Council or SPDC) to improve its human rights practices and begin a meaningful dialogue with the democratic opposition. In March, the United States participated in a high-level meeting hosted by the Republic of Korea and the United Nations to address the situation in Burma. The Seoul meeting, which included representatives of 14 countries, several UN agencies, and the World Bank, reaffirmed shared international resolve to work together to achieve human rights progress and a political dialogue in Burma, including through the efforts of the UN Special Envoy for Burma.

The United States again cosponsored the annual resolution (2000/23) on Burma at the UN Commission on Human Rights. The resolution, adopted without a vote on April 18, expressed grave concern over the increasingly severe violations of human rights by the SPDC and called for urgent measures to ensure establishment of democracy, full respect for human rights, immediate release of political detainees, and freedom of movement and unrestricted communication for all political leaders, including opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi. The resolution also extended for one year the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burma. The incumbent Special Rapporteur for Burma, Rajsoomer Lallah, resigned in October 2000 and was replaced by Paulo Sergio Pinheiro (Brazil).

In November, the International Labor Organization (ILO), with strong U.S. support, implemented an unprecedented resolution invoking Article 33 sanctions against the Burmese Government, based on its continued inaction abolishing the “widespread and systematic” practice of forced labor. For the first time in its history, the ILO called upon all ILO members to review their economic relations with Burma in order to assure those relations do not abet forced labor. The Article 33 decision was the follow-up to a 1999 ILO decision, also unprecedented, to ban Burma from attending ILO meetings and receiving technical assistance.

The United States cosponsored the annual General Assembly Resolution (55/112) on Burma, adopted by consensus on December 4. The resolution, using language stronger than in previous years, decried continuing violations of human rights, expressed grave concern about increased repression, urged the SPDC to release detained political prisoners and lift restrictions on Aung San Suu Kyi, and encouraged the regime to engage in a substantive dialogue with the democratic opposition. The United States actively sought to broaden cosponsorship of the resolution, which won more cosponsors than ever before, including all European Union member states.

Throughout 2000, the United States continued to support the UN’s “good offices” approach to encouraging dialogue between the regime and the democratic opposition as a means of achieving a peaceful transition to civilian rule. In April, UN Secretary General Annan appointed Razali Ismail (adviser to Prime Minister Mahathir and former Malaysian Permanent Representative to the United Nations) as the new Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Burma. Razali’s efforts achieved dramatic results within months; in October 2000, the military regime opened a secret dialogue with Aung San Suu Kyi, the most important political breakthrough in Burma in over ten years. While no substantive account of the dialogue has been released by either side, the dialogue, which was not revealed publicly until January 2001, marked a departure from the regime’s consistent policy of confrontation with the National League for Democracy (NLD). In December 2000, the regime released six of the NLD’s nine central committee members from house detention and halted virulent media attacks on Aung San Suu Kyi and the NLD. As of year-end, Aung San Suu Kyi remained confined under house arrest, although the regime gradually increased her access to family members, SRSG Razali, and the international community beginning in December.

To further U.S. global counternarcotics efforts, the United States continued to encourage efforts of the UN Drug Control Program (UNDCP) to eliminate opium cultivation in Burma. Burma is the world’s second leading producer of illicit opium, accounting for about 80 percent of Southeast Asian production. Since 1994, the United States has earmarked \$6.05 million for a \$15 million UNDCP program providing development and demand reduction assistance directly to the inhabitants of the Wa region, a key opium cultivating area, without going through the Burmese regime. The United States and other donors have worked with UNDCP to ensure

funding goes to UNDCP and affected areas, and not to the Burmese Government. The United States has also insisted that UNDCP continuously apprise the NLD and Aung San Suu Kyi of its program.

Cambodia

International efforts continued in 2000 to conclude an agreement between the United Nations and the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) to bring to justice those responsible for atrocities committed in Cambodia between the years 1975–1979. Throughout the year, the United States continued to urge the United Nations and the RGC to develop a framework for a judicial process that would meet credible standards of justice and permit trials in Cambodia.

In May, Senator John Kerry (D–MA) helped broker an agreement by encouraging the RGC to accept a provision in the proposed agreement allowing for a pre–trial chamber of judges (three Cambodian and two international) to resolve any disputes between the two coprosecutors over whom was to be indicted. Further progress was made during a July visit to Cambodia of UN Under Secretary General for Legal Affairs Counsel Hans Corell. Corell concluded talks with RGC officials on establishing “Extraordinary Chambers” for trying senior Khmer Rouge leaders and announced, “we have reached agreement on all the issues we have discussed.” Senator Kerry returned to Cambodia in November to encourage the Government to pass a draft law establishing the chambers. By year–end, the next steps were for the RGC to adopt the necessary law to establish the extraordinary chambers and for the United Nations and the RGC to sign a formal agreement.

The UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) adopted a U.S.–cosponsored resolution on the human rights situation in Cambodia on April 4. The UNCHR resolution expressed grave concern about continued violations of human rights, but noted some progress made by the Cambodian Government in addressing these issues. The United States cosponsored a UN General Assembly resolution on human rights in Cambodia (55/95), which was adopted without a vote on December 4. The General Assembly resolution expressed grave concern about serious human rights violations, but also noted some positive developments. It urged the Government to create a functioning and impartial system of justice and to ensure that those responsible for the most serious violations of human rights during the Khmer Rouge period were brought to account in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness, and due process of law.

In August, the Secretary General appointed a new Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia, Peter Leuprecht (Austria). He conducted his first official visit to Phnom Penh in December.

Cyprus

The UN Security Council established the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) in March 1964 to help end violence between the island’s Greek and Turkish communities. Since 1974, UNFICYP has

served as a buffer force between Turkish and Turkish Cypriot forces on one side and the Greek Cypriot National Guard and Greek troops on the other.

The Security Council renewed the mandate for UNFICYP for six months in June and again in December 2000. The mandate will expire June 15, 2001. In its December resolution (Resolution 1331), the Security Council urged the Turkish Cypriot and Turkish forces to rescind restrictions imposed on June 30 on the operations of UNFICYP and to restore the military status quo ante at the town of Strovila. The restrictions, in part, closed crossing points along the UN Buffer Zone, leaving only one open in Nicosia. Subsequently, the forces opened three additional crossing points, but kept other closures in effect, greatly hampering movement by UN forces.

In Resolution 1250 (1999), the Security Council requested the Secretary General to issue an invitation to Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders to begin talks in the autumn of 1999. The Secretary General subsequently issued an invitation and the first round of proximity talks took place in December 1999. At the beginning of 2000, the Secretary General appointed Peruvian diplomat Alvaro de Soto as his Special Adviser on Cyprus. Under the good offices of the Secretary General, and with strong U.S. and U.K. support, four more rounds of proximity talks between President Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash took place. These talks covered all the core issues related to achieving a comprehensive settlement. After the last session in November, Turkish Cypriot leader Denktash announced that he did not intend to continue to participate in the talks. De Soto continued to consult with Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders and others on ways to resume UN talks.

East Timor

Throughout 2000, the United States worked, through the United Nations and bilaterally, to support the UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET). UNTAET's mandate is to assist the East Timorese in their transition to independence and to maintain the security of the East Timor territory.

In August 1999, with more than 98 percent voter turnout, over 78 percent of the East Timorese rejected autonomy within Indonesia in favor of independence for East Timor in a UN-supervised consultation. The subsequent campaign of violence, looting, and arson by the militias and Indonesian security forces devastated much of East Timor and especially Dili, its capital. Thousands of people fled—or were forcibly moved—to West Timor, creating a serious refugee situation there. In September 1999, the Security Council authorized the establishment of a multinational force, the International Force in East Timor (INTERFET), “to restore peace and security in East Timor.”

In October 1999, the Security Council created UNTAET to provide administration services as East Timor prepared for independence. The civilian component of UNTAET began its effort to create new govern-

mental institutions while the military component took over from INTERFET in February 2000. The Secretary General appointed Sergio Vieira de Mello (Brazil) as the Transitional Administrator for East Timor. At the end of the year, UNTAET forces stood at 124 observers, 1,398 civilian police (CIVPOL), and 7,765 troops.

The UNTAET CIVPOL are armed, have responsibility for law enforcement functions, and have rapid response units to provide back-up if needed. CIVPOL has an authorized strength of 1,640, including 240 specialized police for rapid response. CIVPOL is also responsible for standing up a 3,000-member Timor Lorosa'e Police Service (TLPS). The United States contributed 80 police to CIVPOL, and had a small bilateral technical assistance program to help the United Nations develop standard operating procedures, and administer field and supervisor training for the TLPS. Although INTERFET and then UNTAET ended almost all militia violence in East Timor save occasional militia "sniper" attacks on peacekeepers, two peacekeepers were killed by militias in 2000.

UNTAET had undertaken a program of "Timorization" of key government posts to prepare East Timor for transition to full independence. As part of that effort, UNTAET established in July a new governing structure, the East Timor Transitional Administration (ETTA). The ETTA cabinet consists of nine ministries, five of which are headed by East Timorese. In late October, UNTAET appointed a 36-member National Council representing a wide spectrum of East Timorese society.

UNTAET began preparations for elections in late summer 2001 to help the East Timorese elect a national assembly, which will draw up and adopt a constitution, after which the population will elect a president. The international community hopes that East Timor will move to full nationhood by early 2002, although the dates may slip. Given the shallow economic foundation of the country, continued concerns about peace and security, and the paucity of East Timorese trained and experienced in the many facets of organizing a government and civil society, the United States anticipates that East Timor will need considerable international support for the foreseeable future.

The United States allocated \$2.4 million to East Timor for support assistance to UNTAET's Special Crimes Unit to gather documentary and forensics evidence regarding crimes against humanity; for technical assistance to local human rights groups; and, in consultation with the United National Development Program in Dili, for technical assistance and institutional strengthening to address immediate as well as longer term needs of the nascent justice sector. These projects successfully established judicial training programs. They also delivered forensic equipment, vehicles, and other material resources necessary for investigating crimes against humanity. Trained investigators working with UNTAET supported human rights investigations.

The situation of the remaining refugees and displaced persons in West Timor, variously estimated at 60,000 to 130,000, remained serious. In

September 2000, rampaging militia members killed three UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) workers, including a U.S. citizen, sparking the withdrawal of international aid workers from the West Timor camps. Despite intense pressure from the U.S. Government and the international community, Indonesia failed to halt intimidation by militia groups in West Timor and restore security for the return of humanitarian workers. UNTAET and UNHCR considered an initiative to identify and assist refugees in West Timor to return to East Timor.

Georgia

Established on August 24, 1993, by Security Council Resolution 858, the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) monitored compliance with a cessation of hostilities agreement reached between the Georgian Government and Abkhaz separatists. On July 21, 1994, the Security Council adopted Resolution 937, increasing the authorized size of UNOMIG from 55 to 136 military observers to monitor the cessation of hostilities and observe the Commonwealth of Independent States peacekeeping force (made up entirely of Russian personnel) present in country. The Russian Federation supplied about 1,800 troops to this peacekeeping force. In 2000, the Security Council renewed UNOMIG's mandate twice by Resolutions 1287 (January 31) and 1311 (July 28).

The Special Representative of the Secretary General worked to stabilize the situation and to achieve a comprehensive political settlement, with the assistance of Russia as facilitator, the Group of the "Friends of the Secretary General" (the United States is a member), and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The "Friends of the Secretary General" advocated pressing the parties to move the peace process forward. The parties continued to hold discussions on August 6 in Tbilisi (the capitol of Georgia) and August 20 in Sukhumi about confidence-building measures (CBMs), both bilateral and UN-sponsored. The third round of CBM talks at Yalta is scheduled for March 15-16, 2001.

UNOMIG provides an international and Western presence in a part of the world important to such U.S. interests as the stability and territorial integrity of the New Independent States and the East-West transport corridor. UNOMIG provides a measure of stability and international scrutiny in the zone of conflict fulfilling its mandate through patrolling, which is limited due to security considerations, such as hostage incidents that occurred in June and December.

UNOMIG had 103 military observers (including two Americans in Tbilisi) as of December 31.

Kosovo

On June 10, 1999, following the end of the 78-day NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) air campaign that ended Yugoslavia's hostilities against the Serbian province of Kosovo, the Security Council adopted Resolution 1244. Resolution 1244 authorized the establishment of an international civil and security presence, which became the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the NATO-led Kosovo

Force (KFOR), for an initial twelve months, to be continued thereafter unless the Security Council decided otherwise. Resolution 1244 also authorized UNMIK to provide interim administration of the province, including maintenance of law and order, support of human rights, disaster relief efforts, refugee returns and reconstruction efforts, and development of provisional Kosovar self-governing institutions. Bernard Kouchner (France) continued as the Special Representative of the Secretary General of UNMIK, and Jock Covey (United States) remained as Principal Deputy Special Representative throughout the year.

During 2000, UNMIK deployed over 4,400 of the authorized 4,718 international civilian police (UNMIK Police), including 969 special police trained in riot control. The United States increased its contribution of regular police from 550 to 605. UNMIK Police assumed *de facto* police primacy from KFOR in all regions but Mitrovica, where ethnic tensions continued to run high. It also conducted field training for about 3,000 local Kosovo Police Service (KPS) officers. By the end of the year, over 350 KPS officers had assumed primary responsibility for some basic policing duties. Together with KFOR, UNMIK Police provided a safe environment for Kosovo election polling during the Former Republic of Yugoslavia presidential and local elections held on September 24, Kosovo municipal elections on October 28, and the Serbian parliamentary elections held on December 23.

A U.S. contribution of equipment and related training to Kosovo's court system helped to facilitate the restart of trials in Kosovo's courts. UNMIK hired over 400 local judges and, due to concerns of local judicial bias, appointed 10 international judges and 5 international prosecutors, including 1 American, to participate in the adjudication of cases alongside the local judiciary. UNMIK also trained about 600 correctional officers and assumed management responsibilities for 2 Kosovo prisons.

To draw Kosovars into the administration process, UNMIK established the Joint Interim Administrative Structures (JIAS), in which it shared responsibility with Kosovar co-heads for 20 provincial departments. The Interim Administration Council, the first joint administrative body created by UNMIK in 1999, oversaw the JIAS. On October 28, 2000, UNMIK conducted municipal elections in which about 80 percent of eligible Kosovars, including some non-Serb minorities, participated. Due to a Serb boycott of the elections, UNMIK began appointing Serbs to the councils to ensure their representation in the administration. UNMIK also began work on a draft legal framework for provisional self-governing institutions in preparation for province-wide elections in 2001.

To generate revenue for the operation of the provisional administration, UNMIK initiated sales and excise tax collection. The resulting revenue covered about 50 percent of Kosovo's Consolidated Budget, which paid the salaries of over 60,000 civil servants and the Kosovo Protection Corps, which participated in public works and humanitarian projects.

In keeping with its administrative duties, UNMIK continued maintenance work on Kosovo's electricity and water systems, established a telecom system, authorized the operation of a commercial bank, initiated a feasibility study for the clean up and operation of the Trepca mining complex, and initiated work on identification documents for Kosovo residents. These and other efforts required specialized skills not found among traditional UN recruits. At the request of UNMIK, the United States assisted the United Nations with an international recruitment drive to locate skilled specialists to fill over 100 critical UNMIK vacancies. In a few months, the effort attracted close to 2,000 candidates, from which UNMIK was able to fill its vacancies and establish a database of names for future consideration.

UNMIK supported the organized return of ethnic Albanian refugees and participated in a Joint Returns Committee, which facilitated look-see visits for displaced Kosovar Serbs and developed a plan for the eventual return of greater numbers of Serb and other minorities to the province.

Tajikistan

Security Council Resolution 968 (1994) established the UN Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT) to monitor implementation of the September 1994 temporary cessation of hostilities agreement between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition. On May 5, 2000, the Secretary General reported the completion of the main provisions of the General Agreement and recommended the termination of UNMOT since it had successfully completed its mandated tasks. On May 12, in a statement by its President, the Security Council welcomed that development and the termination of UNMOT after its mandate expired on May 15. The United Nations subsequently established the UN Tajik Office of Peace-Building to continue the work to consolidate peace and promote democracy.

The Former Yugoslavia

The former Yugoslavia remained a serious concern of the United States in the Security Council in 2000. Throughout the year, the United States promoted measures supporting UN objectives of democratization and stabilization in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY). Several of the Council's actions furthered implementation of the U.S.-sponsored General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, the Council continued to focus on Kosovo, including on the UN Interim Administrative Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) established following conclusion of NATO's (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) Operation Allied Force in 1999. Prospects for peace improved as a result of Slobodan Milosevic's loss of power in the FRY elections on September 24 and the establishment of a democratic government in Belgrade. The United Nations formally admitted the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as a member on November 1, bringing to an end the Milosevic regime's claim that it was the sole successor state to the former Socialist Federal

Republic of Yugoslavia. On December 4, the General Assembly adopted by consensus the resolution “The Situation of Human Rights in Parts of Southeastern Europe” (55/113), which the United States had cosponsored in the Third Committee (Human Rights).

UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP). The United Nations has maintained a security regime since 1992 to monitor the demilitarization of the strategic Prevlaka peninsula overlooking the Bay of Kotor. Croatia and the FRY agreed to the demilitarization in September 1992 to keep conflict from spreading in the Balkan region. However, Croatia and the FRY maintained divergent views of their dispute over Prevlaka. Croatia claimed sovereignty over the peninsula and viewed the matter as a security issue, a position the United States supported. The FRY, in an attempt to safeguard sea access to and from Kotor Bay for its navy, asserted that territorial issues were not resolved and that land and sea borders should be resolved through a negotiated territorial counter-claim. The Security Council continued to affirm Croatia’s territorial integrity “within its internationally recognized borders,” which the United States believed in effect acknowledged Prevlaka’s status within Croatia.

The United Nations established a 14-person military observer mission (UN Security Council Resolution 779 of October 6, 1992) under the UN Protection Force to monitor the demilitarization effort. Security Council Resolution 1038 (1996) established an independent mission to carry out this effort, increased the size of the mission to 28 observers, and renamed it the UN Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP). Since then, the Council has renewed UNMOP at six-month intervals. Through most of 2000, the sides made little progress on the territorial dispute. The end of the Milosevic regime improved prospects for a resolution of the issues, although Montenegro’s increased desire for independence, manifested following Milosevic’s departure, added a new dimension of complexity to the discussions. The United States supported a peaceful settlement with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including Montenegro, and, in the interim, enhanced freedom of movement for civilians in the UNMOP area.

Bosnia–Herzegovina. The November 1995 Dayton Peace Agreement for Bosnia and Herzegovina brought an end to the bloodiest war in Europe since World War II. In Annex 11 of the 1995 Dayton Accords (the “Agreement on an International Police Task Force”), the parties called for a UN civilian police operation to assist in creating a safe and secure environment. On December 21, 1995, Security Council Resolution 1035 established a UN civilian office and an International Police Task Force (IPTF) in Bosnia for a one-year period under the authority of the Secretary General. In a 1996 report, the Secretary General stated the operation would be known as the UN Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). The Security Council has continued to renew both, and on June 21, 2000, adopted Resolution 1305 to renew the UNMIBH mandate for an additional year. Jacques Klein (United States) continued to serve as Special Representative in charge of the UNMIBH mission as he had since taking

up the post in July 1999. In the General Assembly, the United States cosponsored a resolution on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (55/24), which was adopted by consensus.

Police reform was a concern of the UN Mission throughout 2000. The IPTF accelerated its program of comprehensive and intrusive inspections and audits of police facilities, furthered its restructuring efforts, and completed most of its police training. The police force was transformed and reduced from the 1996 level of 40,000 war-time personnel to 20,000 regular civilian police. Over 95 percent of police personnel underwent transitional and training courses to ensure their understanding of human rights. (A new specialized police force is being formed in the Republika Srpska and will undergo similar training.)

During the year, Vincent Coeurderoy (France) replaced Detlef Buwitt (Germany) as IPTF Police Commissioner and Dennis Leduc (United States) replaced Mike Stiers (United States) as the IPTF Deputy Police Commissioner. Buwitt's predecessor as Police Commissioner, Richard Monk, had submitted recommendations to the United Nations on improving IPTF management and overall UN civilian police operations, which the United States supported and urged the United Nation to implement. The United Nations incorporated many of these recommendations into IPTF practices and UN training materials in 2000.

UNMIBH also trained and deployed Bosnia's first multi-ethnic UN civilian police contingent, which joined the UN Transition Administration in East Timor. A second contingent prepared for deployment, and the first Bosnian military contingent made up of Croats, Bosniacs, and Serbs began training. It will participate in the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

As called for in the 1999 "New York Declaration" of the three members of Bosnia's Joint Presidency, UNMIBH established a multi-ethnic State Border Service during 2000, trained and deployed the service's first 400 officers, and opened a headquarters office and four Border Service Units (BSU). Preparations began for the recruitment of 900 additional officers and the opening of eight more BSU's. UNMIBH also initiated a joint-entity task force on illegal immigration and organized crime, and worked with the International Organization for Migration to repatriate women who were trafficked to Bosnia for prostitution.

Security Council Resolution 1184 (1998) established the Judicial System Assessment Program (JSAP) as part of UNMIBH. The JSAP was to monitor and provide assessments of the court system as part of the judicial reform program of the Office of the High Representative, which monitors civilian implementation of the Dayton Accords. After operating for two years, JSAP successfully completed its mandate on December 1, 2000.

General elections on November 11 demonstrated that the nationalist parties still enjoy popular support. As UN Secretary General Annan concluded in a November 30 report to the Security Council,

The recent general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrated yet again how nationalist parties are willing to incite inter-ethnic fear and

suspicion to preserve their power and privileges. The people of Bosnia and Herzegovina need to understand that their future in Europe and the continued assistance of the international community depend on the actions they take together to create a modern, democratic and tolerant society.

Reflecting the concerns expressed by Annan, coalitions of moderate, pro-Dayton parties formed majority governments that, for the first time since the war, excluded the nationalists from power.

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The Security Council established the ICTY with Resolution 827 (1993). Throughout 2000, Carla del Ponte (Switzerland) continued to serve as the Tribunal's Chief Prosecutor, as she had since the Security Council appointed her to the position in September 1999.

The United States, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, and Germany made much progress on the apprehension of individuals indicted by the Tribunal since the multi-nation Stabilization Force entered Bosnia-Herzegovina in early 1996. Of 96 publicly indicted war criminals, 49 have been taken into custody in The Hague, and 27 were still at large by the end of 2000; the remainder have either died or had the charges against them dismissed. Three prominent indictees have yet to be brought to justice: former FRY President Slobodan Milosevic; former Republika Srpska President Radovan Karadzic; and former chief of the Bosnian Serb Army Ratko Mladic. The United States repeatedly called for these indictees to stand trial before the ICTY.

During the first half of the year, there were numerous calls (including from the Milosevic regime) for the Tribunal to investigate NATO's actions during Operation Allied Force in Kosovo in 1999. Both NATO and the U.S. Government publicly stated that there was no reason, in either fact or law, for an inquiry. In June 2000, del Ponte issued a report stating there was no basis for an investigation, bringing the matter to a close.

Special Political Issues

International Peace and Security

In 2000, the United States considered Presidential Decision Directive (PDD) 25 criteria: cost, size, risk, mandate, and exit strategies when making decisions about proposed peacekeeping operations. While UN peacekeeping missions in the Central African Republic, Haiti, and Tajikistan ended in 2000, UN peacekeeping personnel increased from 18,000 in 1999 to over 37,000 in 2000. As of December 31, there were 37,719 military and civilian police personnel deployed (1,466 military observers, 7,715 civilian police, and 28,538 troops). They included 36 U.S. military observers in Western Sahara, Kuwait, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, East Timor, Syria, Egypt, and Israel and 849 U.S. civilian police in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, and East Timor.

The United Nations significantly increased troop operations in Sierra Leone and established a new mission between Ethiopia and Eritrea after they had signed a cessation of hostilities agreement.

The Security Council started a discussion in January on HIV/AIDS as a threat to international peace and security. By the end of 2000, approximately 5.3 million people had been newly infected with HIV, 3 million people had died of AIDS, and 36.1 million people—two-thirds of them in sub-Saharan Africa—were living with HIV or AIDS worldwide. On July 17, the Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1308 which encouraged interested member states to assist with the creation and execution of policies for HIV/AIDS prevention, voluntary and confidential testing and counseling, and treatment for personnel to be deployed in international peacekeeping operations. While awareness and advocacy advanced, so too did the AIDS epidemic.

In terms of specific missions, the troubled course of UN peacekeeping in Sierra Leone dominated the news in the spring and summer. In May, Revolutionary United Front (RUF) guerrillas broke the Lome Agreement and seized UN peacekeepers and equipment. After the crisis was resolved, the Security Council began discussions that would strengthen the mandate of the UN Mission in Sierra Leone mandate, move the mission toward peace enforcement, and increase the number of troops. India and Jordan decided to withdraw their forces against a backdrop of UN troop recruitment where no Western nation offered to send troops. As the year ended, Indian and Jordanian troops were completing their withdrawal, while some other troops contributors rotated their forces. International peacekeeping focus was on consolidation rather than reviewing mandate and authorized force levels.

Security Council consideration of possible sanctions to reinforce peace processes in Africa intensified in 2000. Its efforts continued in particular to reduce the contribution of so-called “conflict” diamonds to fueling conflict, particularly in Sierra Leone. Toward the end of the year, given mounting evidence that President Charles Taylor (Liberia) was supporting the RUF and exacerbating turmoil in the region, the United States imposed travel restrictions on members of the Liberian Government and began to advocate wider UN sanctions against Liberia.

While the Security Council in February authorized the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) to expand to 5,537 peacekeepers to verify and monitor the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement and related demobilization, MONUC deployment was on hold throughout the year. The parties, primarily the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, did not meet the pre-conditions on freedom of movement and security for UN forces necessary for expanded MONUC deployment. Sporadic fighting continued throughout the year in violation of the cessation of hostilities agreement.

Turning to the Balkans, in Kosovo the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the Kosovo Force significantly

increased security and reduced crime, although ethnic tensions remained high. UNMIK made considerable progress in bringing Kosovars into administrative and policy bodies. On October 28, UNMIK held the first free and fair elections. It made training of a local police force a high priority, training more than 3,000, and 350 of those trained have assumed policing responsibility. The Kosovo Liberation Army was demilitarized, and the Kosovo Protection Corps, an emergency service organization, was created to gainfully employ its former members.

In Bosnia–Herzegovina, the UN Mission in Bosnia–Herzegovina (UNMIBH)/International Police Task Force’s basic police training program and initial police registration was nearly completed and international efforts focused on specialized training in areas such as combating organized crime. UNMIBH established a State Border Service and sent a multi–ethnic contingent of 12 civilian police to participate in the East Timor mission. The election of democratic governments in Croatia and in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia also altered the dynamics in the region in a positive way.

In East Timor, the UN Transitional Authority in East Timor (UNTAET) continued to prepare the territory for independence. Militia violence continued after UN peacekeepers replaced the International Force in East Timor in February. Tens of thousands of East Timorese remained in refugee camps in West Timor. Efforts to ensure the security of those who wish to come back have been delayed by the withdrawal of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and other humanitarian groups from West Timor after the murders of three UN personnel.

In the Middle East, Israeli forces withdrew from southern Lebanon on May 24. This enabled the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) to establish forces along the UN–brokered “Blue Line” of separation between Israel and Lebanon, thereby fulfilling a key element of its mandate. On June 16, Secretary General Annan confirmed to the Security Council that Israel had withdrawn its forces from Lebanon in accordance with Resolution 425 (1978). The Government of Lebanon took some steps to augment its presence in the south but did not fully re–establish its authority in the area as called for in Resolution 425.

The UN Truce Supervision Organization continued to operate in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan, and Israel while providing stationary and mobile observer assistance to UNIFIL (southern Lebanon) and the UN Disengagement Observer Force (Golan Heights). The Palestinians proposed the creation of an international force in the West Bank and Gaza but Israel opposed the concept.

Agenda for Peacekeeping. The U.S. agenda for peacekeeping operations was straightforward. The United States worked to ensure that any peacekeeping resolution focused on practical measures to balance peacekeeping capabilities, effectiveness, efficiency, and reform. In addition, the United States recommended that the United Nations support measures which enhanced the overall capacity to assess conflict situations, effec-

tively plan and manage peacekeeping operations, and respond quickly and effectively to Security Council mandates. The United States encouraged member states to incorporate peacekeeping as a part of their national strategy and commit forces to peacekeeping wherever appropriate.

Force Protection. The peacekeeping executive agent for force protection assessment of Department of Defense U.S. Military Observers serving in the United Nations is the U.S. Military Observer Group–Washington (USMOG–W). During the year, USMOG–W continued to conduct semi–annual force protection surveys of all peacekeeping missions where U.S. military observers work under the operational control of the United Nations. As a command responsibility, where they find force protection shortcomings, they either make corrections or withdraw the U.S. contribution to the mission.

Civilian Police. The role of civilian police (CIVPOL) in peacekeeping missions continued to gain prominence, and the United States continued efforts to enhance both domestic and international capacities for recruiting, training, and deploying CIVPOL to peacekeeping missions around the world. With thousands of UN CIVPOL positions still vacant at the beginning of the year, mostly in UNMIK and UNTAET, the international community struggled to achieve the authorized staffing levels in various missions. Intensive recruiting efforts, begun during the previous year, had a significant impact, and caused the steep rise in CIVPOL levels from 4,386 at the beginning of the year to 7,725 at the close. The U.S. contribution rose from 647 to 849. U.S. efforts were strengthened by PDD 71 on Strengthening Criminal Justice Systems in Complex Contingencies. The directive established a lead office within the Department of State for CIVPOL and criminal justice assistance in peace operations, and an inter-agency process for implementation. It also provided guidance to enhance U.S. capacities for providing CIVPOL to field operations, delivery of training assistance to foreign police, and for helping other countries and international organizations enhance CIVPOL capacities.

Disarmament Issues

UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC)

As mandated by the UN General Assembly, the UNDC provides a forum for deliberation on disarmament issues when the Assembly is not in session. The UNDC, traditionally operating by consensus, considers and makes recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament, and follows up the relevant decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly and special sessions devoted to disarmament.

The 2000 UNDC met June 28–July 6 and adopted two agenda items for the upcoming three–year cycle: “Ways and Means to Achieve Nuclear Disarmament” (chaired by Ghana) and “Practical Confidence Building Measures in the Field of Conventional Arms” (chaired by Argentina). Both chairs introduced papers to synthesize views exchanged in initial sessions and to provide a possible structure for future work.

UNDC delegations had generally positive views on the results of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference and noted that UNDC work on the nuclear agenda item should be consistent with the results of that conference. The United States was criticized by China and, to a lesser extent Russia, for U.S. nonratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, U.S. National Missile Defense, and the alleged “destruction” of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

Conference on Disarmament (CD)

The CD is the principal multilateral negotiating forum for arms control and disarmament. Although it is financed through the UN scale of assessments and submits an annual report on its actions to the United Nations, the CD is an autonomous organization outside the formal UN system that makes all of its decisions by consensus, a rule the United States insisted on to protect its vital national security interests. Members are divided into geopolitical groupings—the Western Group, the Eastern Group, and the non-aligned group (the “Group of 21,” currently consisting of 35 members), with China as an independent member. The CD has 66 members with applications for membership from 21 states. In 2000, 41 non-member states were granted observer status.

For the session in 2000, the CD met January 17–March 24, May 22–July 7, and August 7–September 22 in Geneva, Switzerland. The session ended without agreement on a work program, accomplishment of any substantive work, establishment of any negotiating bodies, or the appointment of any special coordinators. U.S. objectives included re-establishing a Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty (FMCT) negotiating committee and facilitating anti-personnel landmine transfer-ban negotiations by having a special coordinator appointed. The CD remained at an impasse because of continued insistence by China, supported by Russia and Pakistan, that the CD’s overall work program should include negotiations on nuclear disarmament and outer space arms control in addition to negotiations on FMCT.

UN First Committee (UNFC)

The 2000 session of the UNFC was significantly less contentious and more cooperative than previous years’ sessions, due, in part, to a successful May 2000 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference that contributed to a positive and constructive atmosphere among the disarmament community. Although policy differences remained, particularly on missile defense and Russia’s resolution on the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM), the United States was able to spend more time actively promoting, not defending, U.S. goals and objectives.

During the 2000 session, the UNFC considered 48 resolutions and 1 decision. Six resolutions were introduced on nuclear disarmament; 2 on other weapons of mass destruction; 1 on outer space; 5 on conventional weapons; 7 on regional disarmament, confidence building, and international security; 4 on other disarmament measures (including information security); 11 on disarmament mechanisms and activities; and 12 on other issues, including science and technology, the Conference on Disarmament

report, and the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament. Twenty-eight resolutions were adopted by consensus, one less than in the previous year. The United States cosponsored 10 resolutions, but did not independently sponsor any. The United States voted “yes” or joined consensus on 34 resolutions, voted “no” on 8 resolutions; and abstained on 6 resolutions.

As was the case in 1999, the United States and Russia did not put forward a resolution on bilateral nuclear reductions because of Russia’s strong preference to introduce its own resolution on missile defense and the ABM. The resolution, however, provoked less controversy than in 1999, primarily because of President Clinton’s decision on September 1 not to authorize deployment of a National Missile Defense program. Nevertheless, the United States again voted against this resolution. Most North Atlantic Treaty Organization and European Union members abstained; France and Ireland again voted “yes.”

The New Agenda Group’s resolution on nuclear disarmament was largely based on language excerpted from the 2000 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference Final Document. The sponsors’ willingness to make revisions accommodating the requests of the Security Council’s five permanent members allowed the United States, the United Kingdom, and China to vote “yes.” Russia and France abstained. The Fissile Material Cutoff Treaty, withdrawn in 1999 because of threats of “killer amendments,” was adopted by consensus.

Millennium Summit and Other Issues

Millennium Summit and Assembly

On December 17, 1998, the 53rd UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 53/202. This resolution designated the 55th General Assembly as the “Millennium Assembly of the United Nations,” to open the afternoon of September 5, 2000. It also scheduled a “Millennium Summit” for September 6–8, 2000.

The Millennium Summit saw the unique participation of the largest gathering of heads of state or government in the history of General Assemblies. A three-day discussion of issues and subjects of interest to the United Nations concluded on September 8 with the closing address of UN Secretary General Annan and the adoption of the “Millennium Declaration.” This declaration reaffirmed the faith of the member nations in the United Nations and addressed its future role in terms of the values and principles it should be guided by. The declaration also established future goals for the United Nations to pursue with respect to the issues of peace, human rights, development, the environment, protection of the vulnerable, the special needs of Africa, and strengthening the organization.

The Millennium Assembly commenced its active sessions on September 12 and concluded on December 23. During the Millennium Assembly, the delegates discussed the issues and recommendations raised in the Millennium Assembly Report of the Secretary General (see A/54/2000). The

Secretary General's report suggested 4 initiatives and 22 proposals to advance 4 fundamental agendas: freedom from want (the development agenda), freedom from fear (the security agenda), a sustainable future (the environment agenda) and renewal of the United Nations. Members viewed reform of the United Nations to strengthen it for the 21st Century as pivotal to enable it to play a major role in the current century.

Secretary General Annan's expert panel appointed to examine the problems of UN peacekeeping released its "Brahimi Report" in August 2000. The Millennium Assembly subsequently adopted the first phase of reforms recommended in this report, thus beginning the process of reform of the vitally important UN peacekeeping function.

The Millennium Assembly's focus on the special problems of Africa followed on the "Month of Africa" during the U.S. presidency of the UN Security Council in January 2000. A special emphasis on the HIV/AIDS pandemic during the Month of Africa also laid the groundwork for discussion of this crisis during the Millennium Assembly.

At the conclusion of the Millennium Assembly, the United States successfully persuaded the member states of the United Nations to commence reform of the United Nations in accordance with the standards set by the Helms-Biden reform legislation of the U.S. Congress. These reforms are that the UN budget for 2000-2001 be a zero-growth budget; the United States regain its seat on the UN Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, which makes recommendations on UN management and resource utilization; the United Nations will agree to adopt results-based budgeting, will strengthen implementation of its code of conduct, and will reform its system of personnel evaluation and introduce a major package of human resource reforms.

The key reform adopted was reform of the UN scales of assessment for the regular budget and for peacekeeping operations. The United States achieved a lowering of the scales of assessment for the regular budget from 25 percent to 22 percent. The scales of assessment for peacekeeping operations will be reduced in steps to 27.58 percent in July 2001 and eventually to 25 percent by 2006 or 2007.

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)

COPUOS was formed in 1958 pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 1348 (XIII) which was submitted by the United States and nineteen other states. The resolution established the *ad hoc* Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and laid the foundation for COPUOS as the only standing body of the General Assembly to consider international cooperation in the exploration of outer space. The Committee has been responsible for the elaboration and adoption by consensus of five multilateral treaties governing space activities, as well as five sets of non-binding principles concerning matters such as the use of nuclear power sources in outer space, direct broadcasting satellites, the sharing of the benefits of space exploration, and remote sensing of the Earth from space. The trea-

ties form the basis for international law in the use and exploration of outer space.

On December 8, 2000, the General Assembly adopted Resolution 55/122, "International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" without a vote. The resolution renewed the mandate of the COPUOS and set the program of work for the COPUOS and its Legal and Scientific and Technical subcommittees. The General Assembly endorsed a plan of action for the implementation of the results of the Third UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held July 19–30, 1999, in Vienna, Austria. UNISPACE III was the last global UN conference of the 20th century and brought together a unique mix of government and industry representatives to discuss the use of space technology for improving the quality of life and stimulating global economic growth. Two thousand five hundred participants from 100 nations attended.

In addition to considering the results of UNISPACE III, the Committee undertook important work in 2000 in areas such as addressing the problem of orbital space debris, meteorology, astronomy and astrophysics, developments in global navigation satellite systems, human space flight, planetary exploration, and environmental monitoring. The Committee also considered legal issues related to international liability and responsibility of launching states and the equitable access to the geostationary orbit.

Non–Self–Governing Territories

Chapter XI of the UN Charter sets forth responsibilities of members states for the "...administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self–government." These "non–self–governing territories" (NSGTs) are considered annually by the Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee of 24 or C–24) and by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) of the UN General Assembly. The C–24 makes suggestions and recommendations to the Fourth Committee on implementation of General Assembly Resolution 1514 of 1960 (Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples), specific issues affecting the decolonization process, and the activities of specialized agencies and other UN bodies in those territories.

Since 1996, the United States and the United Kingdom have participated in an informal dialogue with the Chair of the Fourth Committee in an effort to arrive at a consensus "omnibus" resolution to address the 12 remaining non–self–governing territories including the three NSGTs of the United States: American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 1997, 1998, and 1999, this process enabled the United States to support the "omnibus" resolution "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

In 2000, the United States again joined consensus on “omnibus” Resolution 55/144 and also broadened its consultations with the United Kingdom and the Chair of the C–24, as well as other committee members. In March, a U.S. Government team informally briefed members of the C–24 on the history and socio–economic conditions of the U.S. insular areas, laying a foundation for future discussions on the best methods for delisting NSGTs.

Despite this productive dialogue, the United States voted against a series of resolutions and one decision addressing decolonization issues because of unacceptable references to land tenure, economic and military activities, and the responsibilities of Administering Powers. The United States voted “no” on Resolutions 55/138, “Economic and Other Activities which Affect the Interests of the Peoples of the Non–Self–Governing Territories,” (151 to 2 (U.S.), with 5 abstentions); 55/145, “Dissemination of Information on Decolonization,” (153 to 2 (U.S.), with 3 abstentions); 55/146, “Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,” (125 to 2 (U.S.), with 30 abstentions); 55/147, “Implementation of the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,” (138 to 2 (U.S.), with 18 abstentions); and Decision 55/426 “Military Activities and Arrangements by Colonial Powers in Territories under their Administration.” (100 to 47 (U.S.), with 5 abstentions). The United States abstained on Resolutions 55/137, “Information from NSGT’s Transmitted under Article 73E of the Charter of the United Nations,” (153 to 0, with 5 abstentions (U.S.)); and 55/139, “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the Specialized Agencies and International Institutions associated with the United Nations,” (109 to 0, with 50 abstentions (U.S.)).

Security Council Thematic Debates

In 2000, the Security Council continued the trend of discussing general issues related to international peace and security. These thematic debates increased in number, from 8 in 1999 to 15 in 2000, and scope. For the first time ever, the Security Council discussed a health issue. U.S. Ambassador Holbrooke placed the impact of the AIDS crisis in Africa on the Security Council’s agenda during the U.S. Security Council Presidency in January in a meeting chaired by U.S. Vice President Al Gore. Controversial at the time, the discussion set the stage for a later Security Council meeting and resolution (S/RES/1308) devoted to AIDS and was the impetus for introducing HIV/AIDS language in peacekeeping mandate resolutions. A meeting on the role of women in peace and security marked the first time the Council had ever held an entire open discussion on a gender related issue, and adopted the first resolution (S/RES/1325) on the topic.

The Security Council debate during the Millennium Summit offered a unique opportunity for heads of state and heads of government, including U.S. President Clinton, to discuss the role of the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, particularly in Africa. A

report prepared by a high-level panel chaired by Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi, the former Foreign Minister of Algeria and a former Special Representative of the Secretary General, provided the Security Council an occasion to review UN peace and security operations and to discuss practical recommendations for improving their effectiveness in the future.

The Security Council held the following 15 thematic debates during 2000:

- The Situation in Africa: The Impact of AIDS on Peace and Security in Africa [Open meeting 1/10/00];
- Promoting Peace and Security: Humanitarian Assistance to Refugees in Africa [S/PRST/2000/1 (1/13/2000)];
- Protection of UN Personnel, Associated Personnel, and Humanitarian Personnel in Conflict Zones [S/PRST/2000/4 (2/9/00)];
- Maintaining Peace and Security: Humanitarian Aspects Before the Security Council [S/PRST/2000/7 (3/9/00)];
- Maintenance of Peace and Security and Post-Conflict Peace-Building (Role of UN Peacekeeping in Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration) [S/PRST/2000/10 (3/23/00)];
- General Issues Relating to Sanctions [Open meeting 4/17/00];
- Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict [S/RES/1296 (4/19/00)];
- The Responsibility of the Security Council in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security: HIV/AIDS and International Peacekeeping Operations [S/RES/1308 (7/17/00)];
- Role of the Security Council in the Prevention of Armed Conflicts [S/PRST/2000/25 (7/20/00)];
- Children and Armed Conflict [Meetings held 7/26/00 and 8/11/00; S/RES/1314 (8/11/00)];
- Ensuring an Effective Role of the Security Council in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, Particularly in Africa (Millennium Summit) [S/RES/1318 (9/7/00)];
- Women and Peace and Security [Meetings held 10/24/00, 10/25/00, and 10/31/00; S/RES/1325 (10/31/00)];
- Ensuring an Effective Role of the Security Council in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Brahimi report) [S/RES/1327 (11/13/00)];
- No Exit Without Strategy (Security Council's decision-making process with regard to the termination of peace operations) [Open meeting 11/15/00];
- The Responsibility of the Security Council in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (Terrorism) [S/PRST/2000/38 (12/6/00)].

Admission of New Members

The United Nations admitted Tuvalu as a new member in 2000. As outlined in Chapter II, Article 4 of the UN Charter, membership is open to "peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgment of the Organization, are able and willing to

carry out these obligations.” Admission is “effected by a decision of the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council.”

The Security Council considered Tuvalu’s application for UN membership on February 17. With fourteen members in favor and one (China) abstaining, the Security Council approved Resolution 1290, which recommended to the General Assembly that Tuvalu be admitted to membership. China abstained, arguing that Tuvalu’s ties to Taiwan demonstrated that it had not complied with General Assembly Resolution 2758 (1971), which seated the People’s Republic of China and expelled Taiwan.

The General Assembly approved the admission of Tuvalu to the United Nations on September 5, adopting Resolution 55/1 without a vote. The United States, as host country, welcomed Tuvalu’s participation in the United Nations as beneficial to all members.

The admission of Tuvalu brought the number of UN members to 189; at year’s end, Switzerland and the Holy See remained the only states not admitted to UN membership. Both currently hold observer status in the organization.

